

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SAN JO 03431 061648Z

62

ACTION SP-03

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 ISO-00 SS-20 NSC-07 L-03 CIAE-00 INR-11

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FM AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8017

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAN JOSE 3431

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, XM, US

SUBJECT: CONSULTATIONS AMONG POLICY PLANNING STAFFS

REF: STATE 192211

1. EMBASSY HOPES THAT COSTA RICA WILL BE KEPT IN MIND SHOULD CONSULTATIONS BE POSSIBLE WITH COUNTRIES BEYOND ACTION ADDRESSEES OF REFTEL. RECENT CLOSE CONSULTATIONS ON UN, CUBA AND LAW OF SEA ISSUES HAVE SHOWN VALUE OF SPECIAL EFFORTS TO EXCHANGE VIEWS WITH GOCR AND OF THE LEADING ROLE IT IS CAPABLE OF TAKING ON MATTERS OF IMPORTANCE TO US. COSTA RICA'S PRESENCE ON SECURITY COUNCIL AND PERSONAL ABILITY AND INTERNATIONAL PRESTIGE OF FOREIGN MINISTER FACIO INCREASE WEIGHT OF THESE CONSIDERATIONS. RECENT VISIT BY ASSISTANT SECRETARY BUFFUN WAS VERY WELL RECEIVED BY COSTA RICAN OFFICIALS, AND EMBASSY IS CONFIDENT THAT CONSULTATIONS PROPOSED REFTEL WOULD ALSO BE APPRECIATED AND PRODUCTIVE AND OF AT LEAST AS MUCH VALUE TO THE US AS THEY WOULD BE TO COSTA RICA. CERTAINLY THE STATED OBJECTIVES OF THESE DISCUSSIONS WOULD BE SERVED BY INCLUSION OF AS MANY ADDITIONAL COUNTRIES AS POSSIBLE.

2. IT IS TRUE THAT IN LOCAL SITUATION CONSULTATIONS TO BE MOST USEFUL MUST ENGAGE FACIO PERSONALLY. HE WOULD BE STRONGLY ATTRACTED BY PRECISELY THE EXPLORATORY AND CONCEPTUAL CHARACTER OF THE DISCUSSIONS BEING PLANNED. OTHER OFFICIALS OF SIMILAR STATURE AND RANK MIGHT ALSO BE
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PAGE 02 SAN JO 03431 061648Z

INVOLVED. IT IS ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE TO DISTINGUISH OPERATIONAL FROM PLANNING OFFICIALS IN THIS SMALL

GOVERNMENT, PARTICULARLY IN THE FOREIGN MINISTRY,
ALTHOUGH A PLANNING STAFF IS BEING DEVELOPED AROUND THE
FIRST VICE PRESIDENT FOR PRIMARILY ECONOMIC AND
DEVELOPMENTAL PURPOSES.
LANE

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